

SYN. NO. _____

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

September 13, 2005

Stormwater and urban water runoff drain into the flood control system, waterways, and ultimately into the ocean with virtually no treatment. The runoff deposits trash, bacteria, and other pollutants into these waters negatively impacting the economy of our communities and the vitality of Los Angeles County's environment. The County, the City of Los Angeles, and other cities within the County are seeking to construct local and regional watershed management projects that can remove pollutants from runoff and also provide other benefits such as water reuse and storage, recreation opportunities, flood control, open space and habitat restoration which are essential to ensure a healthy environment for our residents. Such projects are also necessary to address the countywide mandates of the Federal Clean Water Act's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and Total Maximum Daily Load limits.

Current funding is extremely limited. A stable and long-term county-wide funding mechanism needs to be established to construct, maintain and operate local and regional watershed management projects.

As a leader in integrated watershed management for the region and as the Principal Permittee for the County NPDES permit the County should lead the region in a

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county wide initiative to identify projects that would provide tangible water quality and multiple use benefits, and to enact the most appropriate funding mechanism.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Chief Administrative Office, with assistance from Public Works, County Counsel and other appropriate County departments, be instructed to report to the Board of Supervisors within 30 days with its recommendations on how best to implement a stable and long-term regional funding mechanism that would finance the construction, operations and maintenance of local and regional projects that address water quality and provide other multiple benefits. Consideration should be given to the issuance of bonds, the establishment of assessment districts or increases in current assessments, and the potential for enacting State legislation to accomplish the foregoing; as well as to the establishment of lists of projects to be completed in all parts of the County, and to the costs and timing of any necessary ballot measure.